



JOURNEYS

URSULINE SISTERS

of the Roman Union † United States Provinces

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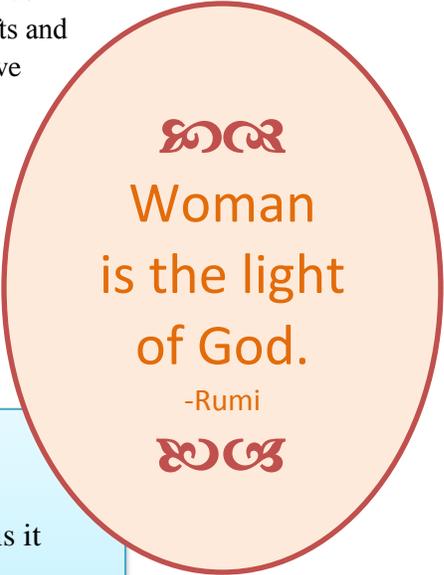
Dear Friends,

May is a month to honor women. As a nation we celebrate Mother's Day and as a Church we honor Mary, the Mother of God. Our earthly mothers—and all who mother us throughout the course of our lives—model for us gifts such as generosity, intuition, creativity, and courage. Mary, the Mother of God teaches us about faith, discipleship, and the mystery of vocation.

In this issue of *Journeys* we'll focus attention on Mary and the ways she brings us closer to Jesus. In our prayer this month, let's try to be mindful of the many gifts and contributions of women throughout the ages, and the daily invitations we receive to share our gift of faith for the life of the world.

United in prayer,

Fr. Jan Hopman, OSU



☞
Woman
is the light
of God.

-Rumi

☞

For Reflection

- Call to mind a woman you admire, living or deceased. What is it about her that most attracts your attention?
- What feminine qualities do you possess that the world needs you to share?
- In many cultures it is women who pass down the faith. How might you be called to share faith with others at this time?

Angela Merici

Scripture Helps

After her encounter with the angel Gabriel, Mary must have had many questions. What did she do? She “went as quickly as possible” to visit her cousin Elizabeth. **[Luke 1:39-40]** Sit quietly, and in your imagination join Mary as she travels to the hill country of Judah. Listen as she shares with you her experience of being called to something she doesn’t fully understand. Observe the encounter between the two women and give thanks for the joy they share.

Picture yourself at the wedding feast at Cana **[John 2:1-12]**. Notice Mary’s compassion for the newlyweds when she tells Jesus “They have no wine.” Despite his answer, Mary’s deep faith is evident when she tells the servants, “Do whatever he tells you.” In your prayer, ask God to help you see more clearly the needs of those around you and how God wants you to respond. Then pray for the courage to “do whatever he tells you.”

Mary, Mother of good counsel and comfort of the troubled, pray for us.



Other Resources

Listen to Ceelo Green’s rendition of [Mary Did You Know](#) and let your imagination lead you into prayer.

Spend some time enjoying [Marian art](#) from around the world and across the ages.

If you are interested in exploring and praying with other women in Scripture, consider the book [Soul Sisters: Women in Scripture Speak to Women Today](#) by Edwina Gately.

For more information, contact Sr. Elisa Ryan at elisaosu@gmail.com or Sr. Jean Hopman at sjeanosu@gmail.com. If you no longer wish to receive these e-letters, contact Sr. Elisa and she will remove your address.

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